

the **power** of live performance

EXHIBIT

DATE

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Son 20 2011

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Joshua Bell APR 2011



Chris Thile FEB 2011



Great Falls Symphony

2010 - 2011 Our Fifty-Second Season

Gordon J Johnson | Music Director & Conductor

EXHIBIT 8
DATE Jan 20, 2011
PAGES 9

A map of Montana with city names labeled. The map is color-coded to show travel history: blue for cities visited in the last 4 years and green for cities visited more than 4 years ago. The cities are distributed across the state, with a higher concentration in the western and central regions. The legend at the bottom right indicates that blue dots represent cities visited in the last 4 years and green dots represent cities visited more than 4 years ago.

Legend:

- BLUE = visited in last 4 years
- GREEN = visited one or more times since ensemble touring began

APPLICANT: Great Falls Symphony



Cascade Quartet and children at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind experience how music FEELS... EXHIBIT _____

Jan 20, 2011



The Chinook Winds present a master class for band students during a week long residency in Seeley-Swan schools and (below) perform a program for middle school students in Challis, ID.



Phil Aaberg asks for student input during his 2009 residency with the Youth Orchestra.

Music and scarves



Challis elementary students waved scarves to the music at an interactive workshop-performance Thursday by Chinook Winds, the woodwind quintet of the Great Falls Symphony. Students filled the Middle School Auditorium for the "infomance", which taught kids about the instruments and what it takes to have a career in music. The school and evening public concerts were sponsored by the Challis Arts Council and Idaho Commission on the Arts.

Todd Adams photo

EXHIBIT

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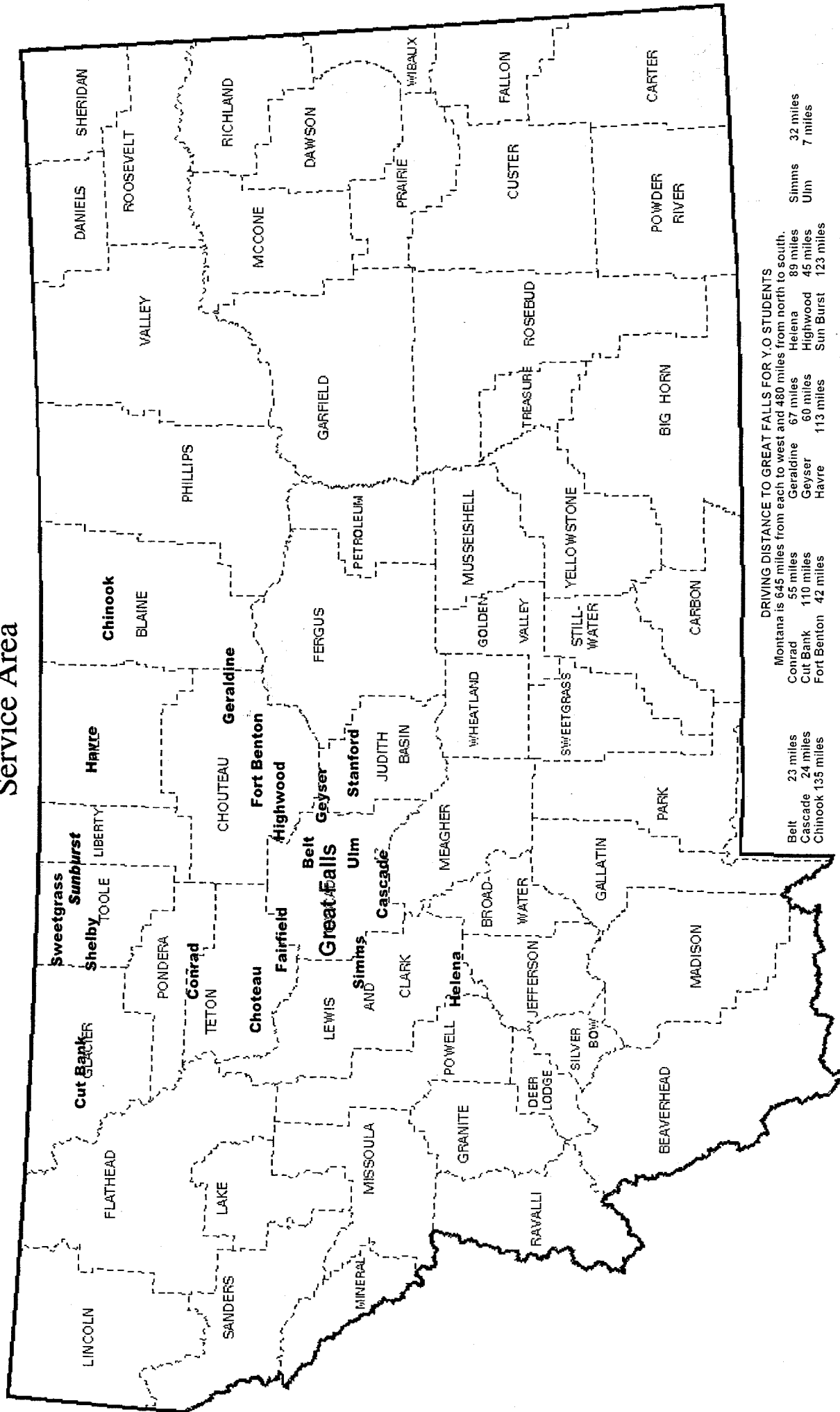
DATE

Sun 20, 2011

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Great Falls Symphony Regional Youth Orchestra

Service Area



DRIVING DISTANCE TO GREAT FALLS FOR Y.O. STUDENTS

Montana is 645 miles from each to west and 480 miles from north to south.

Belt	23 miles	Simms	32 miles
Cascade	24 miles	Ulm	7 miles
Cut Bank	110 miles	Helena	89 miles
Fort Benton	42 miles	Geraldine	67 miles
Chinook	135 miles	Geyser	60 miles
		Havre	113 miles
		Highwood	45 miles
		Sun Burst	123 miles

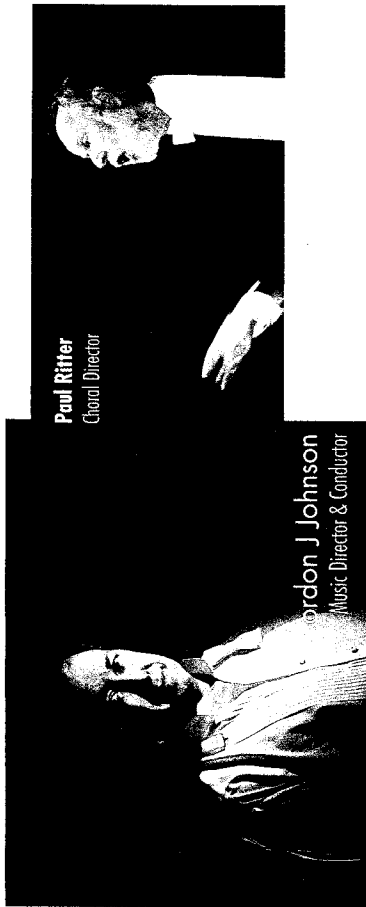


Carolyn Valacich
Executive Director

PO Box 1078
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www.gfsymphony.org
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Share the experience of live music.

Sound is created by vibrations setting ambient air into motion. Music is created when these vibrations are organized and intoned by musical voices of varied size and construction. When all these glorious musical instruments ring together a palpable energy is created. In the most basic sense, it is these vibrations in the air that you hear at a concert, it is the human interaction of listening to music that makes the experience meaningful.

Now and again I will have the occasion to walk out onto the Mansfield Theater stage alone. It is a humbling experience to be the singular figure in a room that accommodates so many people. As I stand, solitary, I can sense the spirit of past performances. My imagination conjures up the beauty of artists who have performed in our presence, the majesty of great compositions revealed and the reaction of enthusiastic audiences. Those spirits, from hundreds of performances, through many decades, compounded over the years, resonate clearly in my imagination. This illusion inspires me to continually create new and ever more vibrant Symphony performances.

It is the human element which makes these vibrations in the air intelligible and personal. It is the shared experience of hearing music performed live which touches our hearts and moves our spirits.

the **power** of live performance



Joshua Bell APR 2011

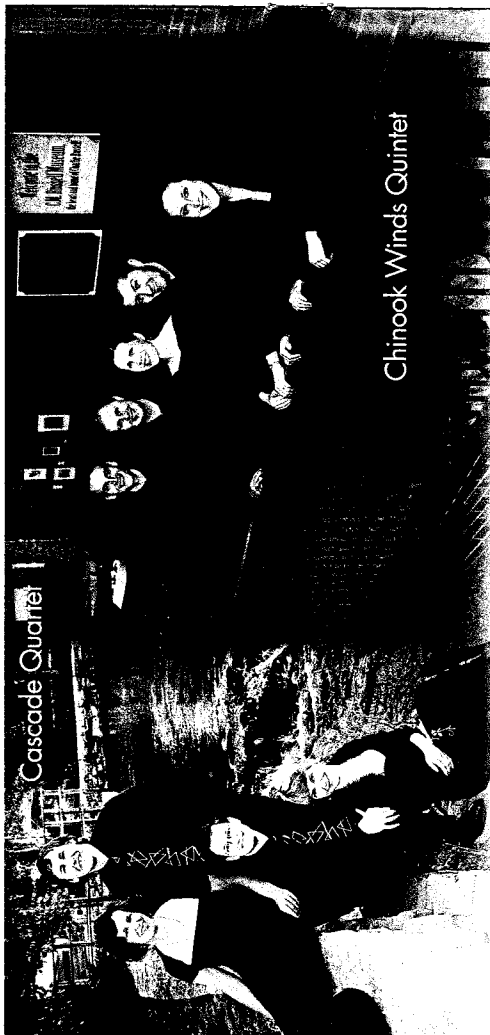
Chris Thile FEB 2011

Great Falls Symphony

2010 - 2011 Our Fifty-Second Season

Gordon J Johnson | Music Director & Conductor

EXHIBIT 8
DATE Sun 20, 2011
HB 9



Cascade Quartet

Chinook Winds Quintet

Chamber Music Series 2010 - 2011 Season

Cascade Quartet: Mary Popovich, violin; Thaddeus Suits, cello; Adam Mathies, viola; Lisa Mueller, violin.
Chinook Winds: Nick Wurdick, horn; Douglas Brown, bassoon; Amy Eyles, flute; Bill Aikens, oboe; Allison Santz, clarinet.

Selected from the nation's finest musicians, members of the Cascade Quartet and Chinook Winds Quintet provide artistic leadership within the orchestra, play a vital role as teachers in the community, and enable the Symphony to serve many Montana communities through chamber music concerts, school programs and other outreach activities. Their Chamber Music Series concerts this season will highlight the music of France, and will feature a diverse array of guest artists including popular Great Falls pianist **Grady Addison**, Dartmouth Brother **Matthew Marolek** and German harpsichordist **Thomas Strauss**.

The Allure of Paris



Paris served as the cultural center of Europe for well over a century. During the Romantic Era, composers were drawn to the intimate setting of the salon (the word derives from the French word *salon* or room). The salon not only attracted musicians, but was the gathering forum for artists and intellectuals as well. Over the years, serious music students from around the world applied for study at the famed Paris Conservatoire. Among French masters Fauré, Ravel and Debussy, American composers Aaron Copland, Virgil Thompson and Roy Harris were drawn to Paris for inspiration, as were authors F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway. This season the Cascade Quartet and the Chinook Winds will examine the splendor, beauty and vibrancy of "la belle France."

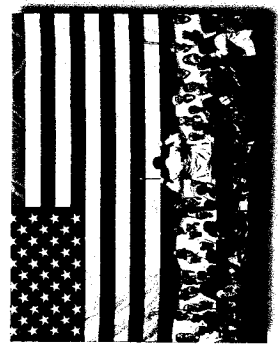
SUNDAYS: 2pm
 First Congregational Church
 Christ United Methodist Church
 2900 9th Avenue S

New Year's TUESDAYS: 7pm
 C.M. Russell Museum
 400 13th Street N

The Chamber Music Series includes seven concerts in your choice of two intimate listening environments!
 September 26 & 28 • October 24 & 26
 December 12 & 14 • February 13 & 15
 March 6 & 8 • April 10 & 12 • May 8 & 10

TICKETS
 Season Package: Adult \$60 / Student \$25
 Single Ticket: Adult \$12 / Student \$5

To order packages, see page 7.
 Single tickets are available at the door.
Ensembles may be engaged for any special event
 Contact Jessie Knowles
 Education & Outreach Coordinator
 453.4102



Summer in America

Great Falls Symphony Orchestra
 Wednesday, June 30, 2010, 5:30pm
 CIVIC CENTER CONVENTION CENTER & WHITTIER PARK COMPLEX

Our annual summer concert is a great evening for families with food and fun activities for everyone. With speakers out in Whittier Park, you can have fun indoors and out. Come early to enjoy pre-concert entertainment, including talented junior fiddlers. The orchestra takes the stage at 7pm.
 Premiere seating down front is available.
 Call 453.4102 for more information.



Mark Your Calendar!

Tickets for Black Tie & Blue Jeans go on sale January 2011.

Black Tie & Blue Jeans

Saturday, April 2, 2011, 6pm
 CIVIC CENTER CONVENTION CENTER

Our most popular annual fundraiser returns featuring special appearances from the Cascade Quartet and Chinook Winds Quintet. Come for the fun, food and festive atmosphere!

Special Events



Youth Orchestra Concerts

CIVIC CENTER MANSFIELD THEATER
 Sunday, November 21, 2010, 2pm Fall Concert
 Sunday, March 20, 2011, 2pm Spring Concert

As part of a special year-long residency, renowned composer, arranger and jazz pianist John Harmon will perform with the Great Falls Youth Orchestra on the Fall Concert and create a new work to be premiered in the spring of 2011. His residency will include insights into the compositional process and offer jazz improvisation master classes for young Montana musicians.
 TWO-CONCERT PACKAGE: \$20 Adults | \$10 Students & Children

World Artist Series



Joshua Bell

Joshua Bell: American Violin Master

Saturday, April 30, 2011, 7:30pm
 GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Acclaimed as one of the great violinists of our time, Joshua Bell has performed with major symphonies in concert halls around the world, and his recordings have topped the classical music charts. Bell plays one of the finest musical instruments on the planet, the Gibson ex Huberman, a violin crafted in 1713 by Stradivarius himself.
 This concert is included in the World Artist Series package OR you can support the World Artist Series as a patron: a \$100 ticket includes a chance to meet Joshua, recognition in the program, premium seating, and a reserved seat at the reception.
 Individual tickets available November 2010. \$45 / \$55 / \$65 All seats reserved
 See pages 6 and 7 for more details.

Watch for Best of Broadway too!



Henri Verbruggen



Saturday, October 2, 2010 Piano Pas de Deux

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA with JAY & SANDY MAUCHLEY, Pianos
CIMM WEBER, Euranthe Overture
F POULENC, Concerto for Two Pianos / WA MOZART, Concerto for Two Pianos
H VERBRUGGHEN, Under the Southern Cross (World Premiere)

Henri Verbruggen, a talented European conductor, was recruited in 1915 to create an orchestra in Sydney, Australia. After his years "down under" he was the well-respected conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony. The Great Falls Symphony will perform the world premiere of a reconstruction of his suite, *Under the Southern Cross*. The concert will also feature a pair of unique piano concertos performed by duo pianists Jay & Sandy Mauchley.



Dave Bennett

All concerts at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted.
 Program subject to change.

**Saturday, November 6, 2010
 Benny Goodman at the Symphony**

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA with DAVE BENNETT, Clarinet and his Benny Goodman Tribute Band
 Dave Bennett and his All-Star Sextet play Goodman's big hits and "swingera" classics: *Moonglow, I've Got Rhythm, Body and Soul, Slipped Disc, Sing, Sing, Sing* and many others. Dave is a jaw-dropping clarinet prodigy who brings the music of "The King of Swing" to life with incredible technique, expression and sensitivity. Vocals made famous by Peggy Lee and Helen Forrest are brought to life by jazz singer Carol McCartney.

**Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 3pm
 Song & Celebration**

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SYMPHONIC CHOIR and the GREAT FALLS YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOIR
V WILLIAMS, Fantasy on Christmas Carols
A HONEGGER, Une Cantate de Noël
J STEPHENSON, Holiday Sing-Along

Welcome the season with song and celebration. The orchestra, symphonic choir and children's choir collaborate on the beautiful Christmas Cantata. Don't miss this festive program with traditional carols and holiday favorites. Join in on the sing-along if the spirit moves you!

Saturday, January 22, 2011 Poetics of Music

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SYMPHONIC CHOIR
D MIHAUD, Creation of the World / R THOMPSON, Frostiana
J BRAHMS, Symphony No. 3 in F Major, Opus 90

Seven poems of Robert Frost, including "The Road Not Taken" and "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" form the lyrics to the delightfully nuanced choral work *Frostiana*. Mihaud's composition is a seamless connection between jazz and traditional concert music of the 1940s. Lyrical and passionate, Brahms' *Third Symphony* continues the theme of this concert. The melody from the third movement inspired Carlos Santana's *Love of My Life*.



Chris Thile

"...an up-and-coming classical composer with almost unlimited potential." —Denver Post

**Saturday, February 26, 2011
 Bluegrass Meets Classical**

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA with CHRIS THILE, Mandolin
C THILE, Mandolin Concerto
P TCHAIKOVSKY, Sleeping Beauty Suite, Opus 66a

Chris Thile, from the band Nickel Creek, brings folk to classical in the tradition of Bela Bartok. According to the *Denver Post*, "The mandolin is not an obvious concerto instrument, but Thile skillfully integrates it into the whole, demonstrating a natural gift for orchestration. The work scatters handsome solos around the orchestra and sets up intriguing inner dialogues with the mandolin and other instruments."



Joshua Bell

World Artist Series



Joshua Bell

"Hot, young, and single, Joshua Bell makes classical music sexy." —USA Weekend

Saturday, March 26, 2011

A Midsummer Night's Dream

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SYMPHONIC CHOIR
F MENDELSSOHN, A Midsummer Night's Dream Suite
FJ HAYDN, Mass in Time of War

The Mendelssohn incidental music is richly romantic and includes a familiar trumpet fanfare heard at nuptials. Changing tone, the *Mass in Time of War* reflects Haydn's distress over the Napoleonic wars in Europe. The music portrays anxiety, foreboding, and in the final movement, a call for peace.

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Joshua Bell: American Violin Master

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

with Joshua Bell, Violin

P TCHAIKOVSKY, Violin Concerto in D Major, Opus 35
S RACHMANINOFF, Symphonic Dances, Opus 45

The Great Falls Symphony is proud to present Joshua Bell, the 2010 Musical America Instrumentalist of the Year. According to the *Seattle Times*, "...the sound just flows from that fiddle, as close to perfection as anything on Earth. Bell's tone is a thing of rare beauty, and he plays with such warmth and refinement that you wish the phrases would last longer." In this World Artist Series performance, he'll interpret Tchaikovsky's most flamboyant composition, rich with melody and color.

We proudly present this concert as part of our *Symphony World Artist Series* or by individual ticket. See page 7 for more details.

SEASON TICKETS ALL SEATS RESERVED

Adults:

Classic Series \$95 / \$105 / \$115

World Artist Series

Includes Joshua Bell \$130 / \$140 / \$150

Students \$30 / \$65

To order tickets, see page 7

For more information, call 453-4102.

Calendar

How to get the best seats to the Joshua Bell concert:

- Purchase a World Artist Series season ticket
- Purchase a World Artist Series Patron season ticket which includes extra perks
- Purchase a World Artist Patron single ticket which includes extra perks

2010 June 30 5:30 "Summer in America" with the Great Falls Symphony & Guests

September 26 2:00 Cascade Quartet

September 28 7:00

October 2 7:30 "Piano Pas de Deux" with duo Joy & Sandy Mauchley, Pianos

October 24 2:00 Chinoook Winds Quintet

October 26 7:00 with Cindy Addison, Piano

November 6 7:30 "Benny Goodman at the Symphony" with Dave Bennett, Clarinet and his Benny Goodman Tribute Band

November 21 2:00 Youth Orchestra "Fall Concert" with John Harmon, Piano

December 5 3:00 "Song & Celebration" Orchestra, Symphonic Choir

& the Great Falls Young People's Choir

December 12 2:00 Cascade Quartet

December 14 7:00 with Matthew Monsolek, World Percussion

2011

January 22 7:30 "Poetics of Music" with Orchestra & Symphonic Choir

February 13 2:00 Chinoook Winds Quintet

February 15 7:00

February 26 7:30 "Bluegrass Meets Classical" with Nickel Creek's Chris Thile, Mandolin

March 6 2:00 Cascade Quartet

March 8 7:00

March 20 2:00 Youth Orchestra "Spring Concert"

March 26 7:30 "A Midsummer Night's Dream" with Orchestra & Symphonic Choir

April 2 6:00 Black Tie & Blue Jeans

April 10 2:00 Cascade Quartet & Chinoook Winds Quintet

April 12 7:00 with Thomas Strauss, Harpsichord

April 30 7:30 World Artist Series presents Joshua Bell, American Violin Master

May 8 2:00 Chinoook Winds Quintet

May 10 7:00

Season tickets are your best buy. Save up to 37%!!

SYMPHONY SEASON TICKET-Classic Series An adult season ticket includes SIX concerts for \$95, \$105, or \$115. Compare to single adult ticket prices of \$20 or \$25. (Joshua Bell concert is NOT included)

SYMPHONY SEASON TICKET-World Artist Series includes JOSHUA BELL SIX Classic Series concerts PLUS a ticket to hear renowned violinist JOSHUA BELL on April 30, 2011 for just an additional \$35. Compare to the World Artist single ticket prices of \$45, \$55 or \$65.

ANYTIME PACK—Our most flexible package allows you to choose which concerts to attend. This package includes FOUR vouchers to be redeemed for Classic Series concerts. Redeem your vouchers all at once, singly or in any combination. Available for purchase throughout the season.

CHAMBER SERIES SEASON PACKAGE includes SEVEN admissions to be used in any combination: Adult \$60 / Student \$25

YOUTH ORCHESTRA Two-Concert PACKAGE includes one admission for both Fall & Spring Concerts: Adult \$20 / Student \$10

FREE GUEST COUPON when you pay for your season ticket by June 15! Give the gift of music.

KIDS & FAMILIES GET A BREAK! Student season tickets are a great deal (Classic Series: \$30) PLUS, when purchased with an adult season ticket, the first child/student ticket is full price; each additional child/student ticket is discounted \$5.

Order your tickets!

To guarantee your same reserved seats or have first option to change seats, please order by June 15, 2010.

I AM A RENEWING TICKET HOLDER. I want to:

☐ Keep my current seat locations. ☐ Upgrade, change, or add seats.

IMPORTANT! To change or check availability of new seating:

First, RENEW your current season tickets by June 15.

Then, call 453-4102 or visit the Symphony Office

beginning June 24 9:30am - 4:30pm.

I AM A NEW TICKET PURCHASER:

☐ I prefer the balcony. ☐ I prefer the main floor.

New orders are filled in order of date received after current subscribers are seated.

I WANT TO HEAR THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE SYMPHONY!

☐ Here's my e-mail address. Please send concert reminders, e-newsletter and late-breaking news.

E-MAIL:

The Great Falls Symphony Association will NOT share your e-mail address with ANYONE.

Support the World Artist Series as a Patron.

Buy patron-level tickets to the World Artist Series and you'll receive recognition in the program, your name on upgraded seats (upon request), and reserved seats at the post-concert reception.

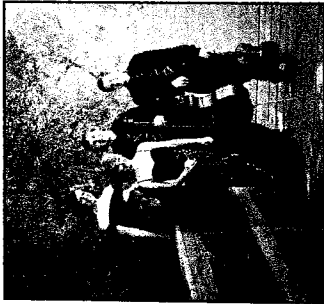
NOTE: Single concert tickets are available through the Box Office: 453-8514 (After September 1)				Symphony Season Tickets				World Artist Series Patron				Youth Orchestra				Chamber Music Series				TOTALS			
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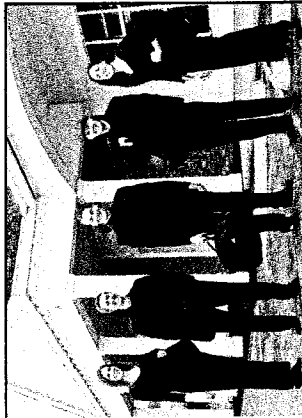
Mail Order Form to: Great Falls Symphony / PO Box 1078 / Great Falls, MT 59403 Fax: 453-9779

Need More Information? Call 453-4102

The Great Falls Symphony's string residency program has been in existence for over 30 years, bringing high quality quartet music to Montana communities. Mary, Irina, Adam and Thad are not only exemplary performers, but also dedicated teachers. Their aim is to create lasting impressions on all of the audiences they reach. Whether it's an audience of fourth graders or a group of music-loving adult concertgoers, the Cascade Quartet connects with audiences to bring music alive.



MEET THE ENSEMBLES



Although Allison, Amy, Bill, Nick, and Doug each come from very different backgrounds and are

products of some of the finest music programs in the country, each of them have one thing in common: they are enthusiastic about sharing their passion for music with diverse audiences and they've come together to make music under Montana's Big Sky. Each of the members have experience in teaching, orchestral performance, and chamber music and they maintain private teaching studios to contribute to the next generation of musicians. Their diverse backgrounds and talents come together to make the Chinook Winds an exciting, engaging ensemble!

FOR BOOKINGS OR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT:

Lucas Poe-Kiser
Education and Outreach Coordinator
Great Falls Symphony Association

(406) 453-4102

lucas@gfsymphony.org

P.O. Box 1078

Great Falls, MT 59403

EXHIBIT

8

DATE

Sept 20, 2011

HR



resident ensembles of the
great falls symphony

GREAT FALLS

Symphony



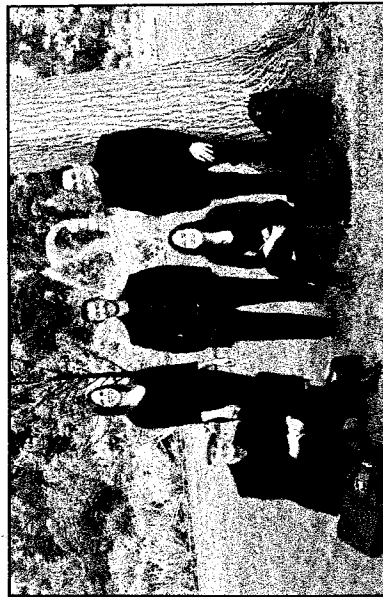
The Cascade Quartet and the Chinook Winds are experienced, polished ensembles whose personable and passionate approach to music-making lends itself to a wide range of activities. Here are a few you might consider:

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Both ensembles present interactive and educational programs that entertain as they inform. One popular program, aimed especially at the elementary school level, makes connections between music and different school subjects, including art, science and math. In the words of one fourth-grader, this program is "better than anything on TV!"

ENSEMBLE COACHING ^{and} COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCE

These sessions consist of coaching, sectionals and instruction for ensembles and individual students of all levels. They can be especially helpful when a school is gearing up for a concert of its own. Inviting the Quartet or Quintet to perform with a school ensemble is an excellent way to engage young musicians in the rehearsal and performance process. The result is an exciting and rewarding musical experience for everyone involved!



MASTERCLASSES, CLINICS ^{and} WORKSHOPS

Members of the Cascade Quartet and Chinook Winds are versatile musicians whose experience in both performance and education lends itself to the creation of educational sessions designed to meet your students' needs. Workshops and clinics can be designed to address specific problems and tailored to fit the needs of your group.

INTERDISCIPLINARY OPPORTUNITIES

By combining music with other disciplines, the impact of both can be magnified. These sessions develop imaginative ways of listening to music by engaging the active participation of the listener's other senses and perceptions. Young artists might paint a response to music; writers might compose stories — the possibilities are boundless.

Interdisciplinary activities are ideal for young people from middle school through high school.

RESIDENCIES

Bring a variety of musical activities together in a residency, specifically designed to the needs of your organization. Residencies offer the chance for extended interaction between an ensemble and students, increasing the impact that the Cascade Quartet and Chinook Winds can have on your students!

Records in sight

Find out which state marks are in danger of falling at state track and field meets /1S

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE

MONTANA'S NEWSPAPER

Spill: Pressure on for federal takeover /2A

The Breaks restaurant shutter's doors /1B

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Great Falls, Montana

www.greatfallstribune.com

75 cents



MSDB preschool teacher relives after 40 years in field /1M

EXHIBIT 8

DATE: Sunday, 2011 H8
H9
"It was about the kids"

By JAKE SORICH
Tribune Staff Writer

World-renowned violinist Joshua Bell headlines the list of guest musicians who will join the Great Falls Symphony for its 2010-2011 season.

Andrew Valacich, the symphony's executive director, said she expects symphony fans of all varieties to be excited by this season's new batch of guest musicians.

Joshua Bell highlights guest artists for next season

"I think this season offers something for everyone," she said.

Bell, the star of the season, came to Great Falls in April to perform at the Great Falls Symphony Center.

Bell, 31, is a highly acclaimed violinist who has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic.

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Bell, 31, is a highly acclaimed violinist who has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic.

"Artists of the Heart" starring Michael Stipe. He's also appeared on "Late July" with Lenny Kravitz, "The Dave Navarro Show," "Radio Rock" and many others. He's also performed with the Great Falls Symphony.

Bell, 31, is a highly acclaimed violinist who has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic.



Violinist Joshua Bell is scheduled to play with the Great Falls Symphony on April 30, 2011. The season's new batch of guest musicians is expected to draw a large crowd for the 2010-2011 season.

Virtuoso violinist appearing with symphony

Symphony

FROM 1A

Glamour magazine described its recording of "The Red Violin" soundtrack as "moving enough to make even the most die-hard Metallica fan shed a tear."

Valacich said she sees Bell as a musician on par with cellist Yo-Yo Ma, who performed with the Great Falls Symphony in 2004.

"I see him very much as Yo-Yo Ma in the sense that he's the same kind of a human being," Valacich said. "May put himself out here and become involved in so many different ways with different people and different experiences. I think Josh Bell is doing the same thing."

Valacich said besides bringing high-caliber music to Great Falls, the World Artist series has helped the symphony gain the attention of music fans around Montana.

"People are coming to our shows not only from Great Falls, but we've brought people from all over Montana," she said. "It's become very much a statewide audience for these kinds of events. It's wonderful for the orchestra to reach out to even a bigger group of people than just our local audience."

Other highlights will include Benny Goodman tribute with clarinetist Dave Bennett and his band; a Bluegrass Meets Classical performance featuring Chris Thile, the mandolin player for Nickel Creek; a "Midsummer Night's Dream" with the orchestra and choir; and a holiday celebration with the orchestra, symphonic choir and special guests the Great Falls Young People's Choir.

The season ticket renewal period for current ticket holders will run until June 15. People who did not have tickets this past season may order season tickets now, with reserved seating to be filled by the end of June in order of the date the requests were received.

Season ticket prices range from \$95 for the six-concert classic season to \$150 for all seven concerts including best level seating for the World Artist series. Special prices are available for students, ranging from \$30 to \$65.

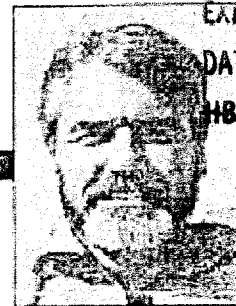
Although single-admission tickets for Bell will not go on sale until November, anyone looking to take advantage of the early purchase may order patron level tickets.

Patron level tickets, a reserved table at a post-concert reception and other special offers may be purchased anytime for \$100 each.

To receive a free brochure or for more information, call the Great Falls Symphony at 453-4100.

Dr. Dirt

"Music"



Exp. on 8
DATE Jan 20, 2011
HB 9

Sample
Reviews

By Jerry Kessler

Legend has it that Grandpa Kessler was a talented musician. He was also a dedicated teacher and school principal. I never heard him play, however; and music was not (for various reasons) a part of my upbringing. The only musical training I received was a weekly "sing along" at the parochial school I attended.

During college, my best friend (Steve Farrell) tried to teach me about music. We went to concerts as diverse as Led Zeppelin and John Denver. It wasn't until I left the hick town I was living in (Minneapolis, Minnesota) that I learned the difference between a saxophone and a trombone, however. Some excellent local music teachers (Sue Anderson, Dohn Ratliff, Ken Stennes, Cedric Halvorsen, etc.) have taught my kids about music – and attending their concerts has raised my music IQ a few points as well.

I don't expect my children to become professional musicians, but music education teaches people to appreciate the finer things in life. As an extension of this education, the Northeast Arts Network (NAN) has

scheduled a number of "performances" in our region – which provide information and "performances" from professional artists to students and teachers in the following communities: Gahway, Gladwin, Lambert, Carleton Place, Odessa, Sault and Moreau. These artists are fun to watch, and they interact with students in a way that stimulates some of those young people to pursue a career in music.

I recently had a chance to see "The Dancers Quartet" in a NAN concert at the Sidney Middle School. Mary Papouk and Benjamin Smith played violin, Jennifer Smith played viola, and Thad Smith played cello. These musicians hold principal positions in the Great Falls Symphony and have an impressive list of individual accomplishments and recordings. They performed works of Mozart, Mendelssohn and other classics. They took turns introducing these pieces in a humorous and informative manner. Their performance was crisp, energetic and entertaining.

Next up was a combined effort of the string quartet with Sidney High School's choir, un-

der the direction of Ken Stennes. They performed several pieces that were composed by Jim Barnes, the brother of the quartet's violinist. His work, "Give Us Peace (and we'll show you the way)" was featured at Barack Obama's inauguration. The local performance was also very moving and was the highlight of the evening.

The next NAN event in Sidney will be on March 12. Colin Ross, a composer and instrumentalist, will be playing a variety of original music, jazz, blues and classics. Samples of his music can be found on the "colinrossmusic.com" website. Keep tuned for more information on this event. The Sidney Performing Arts Council promotes NAN concerts, and hopes you will attend these (and other) live arts programs in the area. Board members include Candy Markwald, Jill Hill, Karen Boehler, Eileen Ziler, Dave Branson and Paul Kaufman.

Music and the Arts are alive and well in this community. Thank these patrons, and their advertising partners, for bringing these entertaining events to our area.

"The program was perfect! The residency [activities] were above and beyond. The Quartet was one of the top 10% of shows we have had in 22 years!

This new combination of people has group charisma, an amazing string quartet. They knocked the socks off my audience in both shows and the kids shows were jaw dropping! They play with the experience of 20 years and the exuberance of 4 weeks! I couldn't decide who to watch. It was like orchestrated fireworks. Layers of music "going off" with precision. One person would play and hand off to another and another and another. It was mesmerizing!"

- Chas Cantlon, Big Productions

0/22/09

"[The music] was breathtaking. The audience loved the concert! I had people tell me it was the best they had heard since living in Libby....I have had several kudos on bringing the quartet to town and offering this community such great music and talent.

I thought their choice of music fit the audience....it was truly a very positive experience for the performers and the audience. [We] had a most successful event, I just can not say enough good things about the evening. We will definitely bring them back!"

-Lorriane Braune, Libby Memorial Center

3/4/10

DEBRA A. STEFFANI-IRVING

1000 WEDUM DRIVE
GLASGOW, MT 59230-1191

(406) 228-4663
Facsimile: (406) 228-4344

EXHIBIT 8
DATE Mar 20, 2011
HB 9

February 3, 2009

Mrs. Sharon LaBonty
MONTANA PERFORMING ARTS CONSORTIUM
633 6th Ave. North
Glasgow, Montana 59230

Re: Cascade Quartet

Dear Sharon and John:

I wanted to personally thank you for bringing the Cascade Quartet to Glasgow this past weekend. They are not only outstanding performers and music ambassadors; they offer first-rate string instruction as well.

As you may know, the Quartet held a string workshop/master class on Saturday. We had 9 string players from all over – Scobey, Wolf Point, Opheim and Glasgow – who came to this class. The members of the Quartet worked with us, both as a group and individually, for more than 3 hours.

I think there is a growing interest in strings in Northeast Montana. It is so important for people here to have these opportunities and this exposure to a timeless artform.

Again, thanks for your efforts on behalf of musicians and the arts.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Steffani-Irving

c; Allison Nichols
Brad Persinger
Great Falls Symphony

Copy of letter from Quartet
tour with the Northeastern
Arts Network. 17 concerts &
schools programs in Saco,
Sidney, Lambert, Culbertson,
Glasgow, Hinsdale, Malta,
Dodson & Chinook over
seven day period. -cv



MEET THE FUTURE...

If there were a group of students who were academically at the top of their class, leaders in their student government, members of varsity sports teams, section leaders in their school music ensembles and volunteers for various community organizations, wouldn't you want to meet them? The Great Falls Youth Orchestra is comprised of sixty of these high achieving students, most likely the next generation of local, state and national leaders.

We would like to introduce you to three GFYO members, Molly Trindle, Brookes Pennell and Sarah Rice...

Molly Trindle joined the Great Falls Youth Orchestra when she was in the 8th grade. She hadn't ever played in a full symphony orchestra before, and was excited and nervous about the challenging music and diverse group of colleagues. Molly is now a junior at Fort Benton High School and active in many school and extracurricular activities including track and field, wrestling on the Fort Benton High School boys' wrestling team, raising steers and heifers for 4-H, taking private oboe lessons and participating in her school band and choir. As the daughter of a rural veterinarian, Molly shares in the family chores around the farm, helping to feed animals, check water, and doing whatever other chores are in season at the time. But she still aims to fit in 45 minutes of oboe practice at least four days a week, and makes the time to come to Great Falls for a weekly oboe lesson with Great Falls Symphony principal oboist Bill Aikens and Youth Orchestra rehearsals.

Molly loves playing in the Great Falls Youth Orchestra. "I love playing in a group where everyone is committed and really cares about the music. I like that we can make quality music because everyone is into it. And I always feel really good about how we played and I always love the way it sounds," she says, "but I wish other kids would not be intimidated and join the orchestra! Everyone should know that it's about helping you get better, it's not exclusive!" In addition to her music, Molly is working hard in school and trying to take as many AP classes as she can. She plans to go to college and study medical research, eventually hoping to work in a lab studying diseases and developing drugs. But she plans to continue to play her oboe in college, taking her love of music with her wherever she goes.

As concertmaster of the Great Falls Youth Orchestra, Brookes Pennell has a big responsibility. She leads the violin section, and provides leadership for the entire ensemble through her example and musicianship. Although only a junior in high school, Brookes is already in her second year as concertmaster of the GFYO. She's also the concertmaster of the top orchestra at Great Falls High School, a member of the varsity swim team, and a unified partner with Special Olympics all while maintaining a 3.86 GPA and taking many honors classes. Brookes has been playing violin for twelve years and studies privately with Jennifer Smith, former principal violist of the Great Falls Symphony.

"Music is a very large part of who I am, and it's a way that I can express myself to others," says Brookes. This past summer she was selected to attend the prestigious Quartet Program with Charles Castleman at SUNY Fredonia. It was a summer of intense study but also tremendous growth. After capping the summer off by performing a full recital in Great Falls, Brookes is back into fall activities, juggling school, swimming, volunteering and music.

For Sarah Rice, playing the harp in the Youth Orchestra is a



big commitment. She lives in Lewistown, and her private harp teacher is in Bozeman, 360 miles away from home. She travels to Great Falls for Sunday afternoon rehearsals during the GFYO season. As a

harpist, Sarah doesn't have many opportunities to perform in an ensemble in Lewistown. She plays saxophone in the school band and performs regularly as a solo harpist for community events, but the GFYO is the only consistent opportunity for her to learn orchestral harp repertoire and pursue her dream of being a professional harpist.

Lewistown is 100 miles from Great Falls, and hauling her full size concert harp takes all of the available space in the back of her family's mini van. Her mother devotes most Sunday afternoons to driving Sarah to and from Youth Orchestra rehearsal. During the summer months Sarah attends the prestigious Interlochen Summer Arts Camp, one of the nation's top summer programs for talented young musicians, artists, writers and dancers. Sarah says, her experience at Interlochen has been "life changing," and has opened up many opportunities for her to continue her musical studies.

Now that Sarah has made connections with other students and staff at Interlochen, she's beginning to consider all of the options for further harp study once she graduates in the spring. She hopes to study harp and composition in college, eventually becoming a professional harpist.



All of the students in the orchestra dedicate a tremendous amount of time and energy to their music. It's an incredible group of students: bright, talented, organized, dedicated and full of energy. According to their conductor, Gordon Johnson, "It's inspiring to see them come into rehearsal every Sunday afternoon and spend almost two hours completely focused on making music. They make connections with their peers, learn about music and history, and come away with knowledge and skills that will serve them well in whatever they choose to pursue."



EXHIBIT 8
DATE Jan 20, 2011
HB 9

**Carolyn Valacich
Executive Director**

Testifying on behalf of

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

GRANT # 1652

From front page news in the Great Falls Tribune, to a column by Jerry Kessler, (Dr. Dirt) in the *Roundup Record Tribune/Winnet Times*, the musical influence of the Great Falls Symphony extends far reaching fingers to feel the pulse of the people of the state of Montana. Since the beginning of the organization fifty-two years ago, the GFSA has believed that through performance we inspire, through education, by engaging and involving young people – we survive. For this testimony I have brought together a selection of words and images from the places we have been, and some of the people we have come to know in all corners of this vast state. The Education and Outreach Program of the Great Falls Symphony brings together a diverse offering of programs and events. At its heart are the numerous programs of two professional resident ensembles, a string quartet and a woodwind quintet as well as some sixty young musicians who make up the Great Falls Regional Youth Orchestra. The nine musicians in the Cascade Quartet and Chinook Winds are employees of the GFSA who moved to Montana specifically to perform with the Great Falls Symphony and contribute to the states economy and its rich arts environment. Many of the young people in the Youth Orchestra travel significant distances every Sunday afternoon to gather on the stage of the Great Falls Mansfield Theater, to rehearse and share their passion for music with their peers. In your packet you will find feedback from a variety of children and adults in the communities we serve – from the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind; concerts and school programs in Roundup, Ovando and Libby; a workshop for young string players in Glasgow; residency programs in Seeley-Swan and Ronan; and an article which profiles three seemingly ordinary high school students who have become extraordinary in part, through their passion for music. All of this we respectfully submit as evidence of the commitment of the Great Falls Symphony Association to allocate human and financial resources necessary to build partnerships and contribute to the economy and culture of Montana...now and long into the future. Thank you.

THE GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAMS

CASCADE QUARTET AND CHINOOK WINDS

- Perform interactive, educational school programs in the Great Falls Public Schools and surrounding areas. Schools receive educational materials for student/teacher use before the ensembles arrive which also include activities for students to complete after the performance.
- Design and implement residency activities which may include masterclasses, ensemble coaching, workshops and/or interdisciplinary projects. Work with schools, teachers, and community members to design residencies that are appropriate for the needs of the program or group.
- Ensembles are available to provide music for a variety of engagements and community events including programs especially designed for audiences of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, EasterSeals, retirement and senior citizen homes, etc.

YOUTH ORCHESTRA

- 2010-2011 marks the 14th anniversary of the Great Falls Youth Orchestra, which is comprised of talented young musicians from throughout northcentral Montana.
- This year's orchestra includes 60 members from Great Falls, Ulm, Fort Benton, Belt, Big Sandy and Lewistown. Eleven different public, private and area home schools are represented.

YOUTH MATINEES

- Two concerts each year especially designed for young audiences and performed by either the GF Symphony, GF Youth Orchestra, or special guest artists. These concerts reach over 3,000 students annually.
- Rural schools, homeschools, private schools, GFPS, and senior citizen groups are invited to attend.
- Educational materials with information about the performance are sent to teachers prior to the concert which include guidelines about symphonic etiquette and activities to enhance the experience for study before and after the performance.

OPEN REHEARSALS

- During the World Artist Series, open rehearsals have afforded young audiences the opportunity to attend a rehearsal of the Great Falls Symphony with a world-class guest artist.
- Open rehearsals are not only an opportunity for youth to hear these wonderful artists, they also offer a rare insight into the rehearsal process of a symphony orchestra.
- This year, young musicians from Montana have been invited to observe the rehearsal with violinist and new superstar, Joshua Bell on April 30, 2011.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- The Great Falls Symphony holds auditions each spring for eleven (11) available scholarships for private study for students in grades 9 through 12. Applicants must participate in their school band or orchestra and winners of scholarships must commit to being an active member of the Great Falls Youth Orchestra. Scholarships awarded each year range from \$350 to \$1,250 each.

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

- Beginning with Midori's Orchestra Residency Program in 2007, the Great Falls Symphony has established a bi-annual artist-in-residence program for the Youth Orchestra that aims to provide extended interaction with a professional musician. Past residencies featured Midori and Philip Aaberg, pianist and composer.
- During the 2010-2011 season jazz pianist and composer John Harmon is the Youth Orchestra's artist-in-residence. He will perform as guest artist on two original compositions during the Youth Orchestra's fall concert and premiere a commissioned work for the Youth Orchestra on the spring concert. During his time in Great Falls, he will work with local GFPS students on jazz improvisation.

BOARD REPRESENTATION

- In an effort to maximize communication and effective cooperation between the Great Falls Public Schools and the Great Falls Symphony, the GFPS Music Supervisor is invited to be a member of the Great Falls Symphony's Board of Directors as well as a member of the board's Education Committee. In addition, a member of the Cascade Quartet, Chinook Winds and Youth Orchestra also serve as representatives on the GFSA's board of directors.